

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT
TOPIC	Soviet Troops in Eberswalde	25X1
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	25X15X1
DATE OF CONTENT		25X1
DATE OBTAINED	PREPARED	21 January 1953
REFERENCES		
PAGES	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED Information	

1. Prior to 18 November 1952, the Schuetzen Kaserne in Eberswalde was occupied to capacity by about 3,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and signal insignia and black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. About 70 soldiers were engaged in basic training, and about 30 soldiers maintained 4 rocket launchers, from 10:50 to 11:15 a.m. on 15 November. Between 11:30 and 11:50 a.m. on 18 November, about 150 soldiers practiced marching in the barracks yard and about 70 other soldiers practiced with 12 mortars of 120 or 160 mm. About 35 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia practiced the laying of field trunk cables along Bernauer Heer Strasse.

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2. Prior to 18 November, the eastern section of the Artillerie Kaserne quartered about 1,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, mostly with tank insignia. About 60 tank troops with rifles marched out of the barracks installation toward Freienwalde at about 10 a.m.

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3. Prior to 18 November, the western section of the Artillerie Kaserne quartered about 2,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and signal insignia. At about 10:20 a.m. on 15 November, about 50 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets practiced with four 82-mm mortars along the road to Trampe. At about 9:30 a.m. on 18 November, four T-34 tanks mounting escort infantry soldiers numbering 50 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets launched a simulated attack against about 70 to 80 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets and who were in foxholes with two 76.2-mm AT guns.

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4. Prior to 18 November, the former MEW power plant on Kleinstaedter Bahnhof was still occupied by about 250 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and signal insignia.

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5. Prior to 18 November, the camp in the woods at Britz quartered 500 to 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport insignia. A column of vehicles that entered the camp at 11:30 a.m. on 14 November from the direction of Joachimsthal

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6. Prior to 26 November, the western section of the cantonment at Duesterwinkelbruecke was occupied by about 300 soldiers who wore black-bordered black epaulets with engineer, motor transport and signal insignia. About 30 officers and 16 women in uniform were quartered at 1 Werbelliner Strasse, Eberswalde. The quarters were connected with the Nordwerk by telephone lines. On 25 November, at 10 a.m., groups of soldiers including 2 officers and 18 EM wearing black-bordered black epaulets with crossed-hammer insignia, 1 officer with 13 EM wearing black-bordered black epaulets with anchor- and wheel insignia, 1 officer and 46 EM wearing black-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia, and 16 EM with black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia marched from the camp to the training area near Klein-Ahlbeck.

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7. Prior to 26 November, 6 x 85-mm AA guns were still emplaced in permanent positions in the AAA emplacement in Forest Section No 19. Five earth bunkers, about 6 x 4 meters, for EM, 1 earth bunker, about 5 x 4 meters, for officers, and 1 earth bunker, about 5 x 4 meters, for ammunition were observed. The bunkers were improved and winterized. The emplacement was occupied by about 75 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The soldiers practiced aiming, engaged in formation drill and practiced rifle firing at targets daily. At 3:20 p.m. on 26 November

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8. After 9:15 a.m. on 21 November, four boxcars with ammunition boxes, about 45 x 30 x 15 cm, were unloaded at the Eberswalde railroad station. Trucks hauled the ammunition to the camp on Bernauer Heer Strasse. From 4 p.m. on 21 November until 7 p.m. on 22 November, 12 field kitchens were installed in 8 boxcars which, together with 44 other boxcars and an escort of 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were dispatched toward Frankfurt/Oder on 23 November.

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9. At about 11 a.m. on 30 October, a briefing attended by field grade officers of all branches of service was held in the officers' club on Bernauer Heer Strasse. The following sedans were parked in front of the club during the briefing:

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10. Prior to 2 December, the restricted area on Ebersberger Strasse was occupied by about 800 officers and 200 uniformed and civilian women. At about 9 a.m., about 500 to 600 officers and 80 to 100 women were seen leaving the installation individually or in small groups. They walked to the Schuetzen Kaserne and, some, to the Artillerie Kaserne. They returned to the installation at about 2:30 p.m. and again walked to the Schuetzen Kaserne and Artillerie Kaserne at 4:30 p.m. From 17 to 21 November,

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2 officers and 6 EM wearing black-bordered black epaulets laid a cable, about 5 cm thick, 40 cm deep into the ground from the Artillerie Kaserne to the restricted area through Freienwalder Strasse and Sear Strasse. The western section of the Schuetzen Kaserne and the restricted area quartered an estimated 1,000 officers and 200 to 250 women. At 3 p.m. on 18 November, trucks [] carrying about 100 officers, entered the installation from the direction of Angermuender Chaussee. At 2:15 p.m. on 21 November, trucks [] and another truck with about 90 officers arrived at the installation from the direction of Brunnen Strasse.

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11. Prior to 2 December 1952, the eastern section of the Schuetzen Kaserne quartered about 3,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, mostly with artillery insignia. The installation was occupied to capacity. On 18 November, two trucks with about 10 officers and 50 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets went into the installation. They had come from the direction of the railroad station.
12. On 2 December, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 4,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, including some wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. At 2 p.m. on 22 November, two trucks occupied by about 30 soldiers each and truck C 2-31-14 with 30 officers went to the barracks installation from the town. Twelve soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets and carrying entrenching tools marched to the billeting area, coming from the direction of Freienwalde. At 2 p.m. on 23 November, 120 unarmed soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets marched to the billeting area from the direction of Freienwalde. On 25 November, truck [] hauled tank tracks to the installation. Armored personnel carrier [] entered the installation on 26 November. At 9 a.m. on 27 November, a bus with 40 to 50 officers drove toward the town from the billeting area. At 12:45 p.m., 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets marched from the installation to the railroad station, carrying baggage. One officer and 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia entered the installation from the town at 2:30 p.m. At 3 p.m. on 30 November, bus [] with 30 to 40 officers drove into the installation. Armored personnel carriers [] left the installation on 1 December.¹
13. [] the former MEW Plant to quarter a komendatura. []
[] All windows in the main building were lighted. The installation was guarded by a patrol consisting of 1 officer and 2 EM. At about 10:30 a.m. on 26 November, 8 officers, including 5 with red-bordered black epaulets and 3 wearing blue-bordered black epaulets, were seen entering the building. Three trucks and two sedans were in the yard.² The following observations were made:
6 a.m. on 1 November: 100 soldiers marched from the barracks installation to the railroad station. A military band played while the troops marched. [] these 100 soldiers had been unloaded in Freienwalde where a processing point for military rail traffic was allegedly established, with 300 to 800 troops arriving or leaving every second or third day.

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4:15 p.m. on 5 November: 45 soldiers marched from the railroad station to the Artillerie Kaserne.

10:30 a.m. on 11 November: 40 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets marched to the Schuetzen Kaserne, carrying rifles and laundry bags.

3:25 p.m. on 15 November: 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets marched from the Artillerie Kaserne to the railroad station, carrying rifles and rucksacks, and some baggage.

7 p.m. on 17 November: 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and rifles and 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets without rifles marched or were carried on trucks [] to the railroad station.

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7 p.m. on 19 November: 35 officers and 40 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets arrived on the Frankfurt/Oder-Schwerin troop train. The officers went by bus and the EM marched toward the installations.

9:30 p.m.: 40 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets marched to the railroad station. They carried baggage.

1 a.m. on 20 November: 42 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets marched to the railroad station, they carried baggage. The Schwerin-Frankfurt/Oder troop train passed through Eberswalde at about 2 a.m.

6 a.m. on 22 November: 60 to 80 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying baggage marched to the railroad station. The train that the troops boarded was dispatched to Freienwalde at 7:10 a.m.

6 p.m. on 25 November: 1 officer and 30 EM with baggage marched from the railroad station toward the barracks installations.

5:30 p.m. on 26 November: six trucks [] each carrying about 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 8 to 10 trucks including [] with boxes and

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mattresses came from the direction of the town and proceeded toward the barracks installations. At 7:30 p.m., about 90 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying baggage and packages marched from the direction of the railroad station toward the barracks installations.

6 a.m. on 27 November: 50 soldiers with baggage marched to the railroad station.

2 p.m. on 29 November: 22 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets marched to the railroad station. They carried baggage and packages.

7:30 a.m. on 31 October: about 50 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia including NCOs and trained personnel marched to the railroad station, carrying baggage. A watchmaker stated that soldiers purchased watches or repaired them. A Soviet soldier told [] that they were going home, and that he had already served his three years but had to wait for his discharge another six months.⁵

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14. The following observations were made on 7 November:

9:15 a.m.: 12 officers and 120 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia marched toward the Schuetzen Kaserne with a folded flag. They had come from the direction of the town i.e. from Breite Strasse and marched through Bernauer Heer Strasse.

11:20 a.m. truck [] left the barracks installation toward the town, carrying a 12-piece band. It was followed by truck [] which carried about 30 officers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The installation was guarded by double sentries during the morning. Music was heard from the billeting area until about 2 p.m.

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At 10:30 a.m. on 8 November, 5 trucks [redacted] each carrying 35 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets and with wreaths. 5 other trucks and 1 jeep loaded with wreaths [redacted] with 12 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying wreaths drove through Bernauer Heer Strasse and entered the Schuetzen Kaserne. A wreath depositing ceremony was held at the Soviet monument in the cemetery between the Schuetzen Kaserne and Artillerie Kaserne at about 11 a.m. About 2,000 troops with about 15 flags attended the ceremony. The units marched to the Schuetzen Kaserne at about 11:30 a.m. Another group in about the same strength and carrying 15 to 20 flags, left the Schuetzen Kaserne. Four tags from bales of cloth which were manufactured by German firms in East Germany in 1952 were found south of the Schuetzen Kaserne on 28 October 1952.

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1. [redacted] Comment. The report confirms the Schuetzen Kaserne and Artillerie Kaserne as being occupied by units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army. [redacted] The mortars mentioned in paragraph 1 as being parked in the Schuetzen Kaserne were previously reported [redacted] and their assignment could not be determined then. The only unit to which the arms could belong to is the 51st (?) Mtrcl Regt of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army which, according to WW II records, was assumed to have had only one 6 x 12-mm mortar battery. The restricted area on Ebersberger Strasse is situated northwest of the Artillerie Kaserne and is used as billets for officers from the above mentioned barracks installations.
2. [redacted] Comment. The former MEW power plant can still be carried as quartering the Hq 63d AAA Div [redacted] The AAA emplacement in Forest Section No 19 was reported several times as AAA emplacement near Westend School. It is located south of the MEW power plant.
3. [redacted] Comment. It appears that the wood camp Britz quarters elements of two regiments of the 63d AAA Div [redacted] as it did prior to the beginning of the summer training.
4. [redacted] Comment. The cantonment at Duesterwinkelbruecke was presumably occupied only by components of the 3d Engr Regt of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army until 26 November 1952. The motor vehicles are believed to belong to the regiment.
5. [redacted] Comment. The military traffic observed [redacted] is believed to have chiefly been part of the personnel exchange program and leave traffic of units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army. Bad Freienwalde was also the processing point for discharges of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army in the fall of this year. [redacted]

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